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Board of Arts and Manufactures

FOR UPPER CANADA.

TORONTO, JANUARY 17TH, 1860.

The adjourned Quarterly Meeting of the Board was held this day, at 12 o'clock, noon. The members present were:—Professor BUCKLAND, University College, Toronto; Dr. BEATTY, President Cobourg Mechanics' Institute; THOS. SHELDRICK, President Dundas Mechanics' Institute; THOS. J. COTTLE, President Woodstock Mechanics' Institute; WM. McCABE, President Whitby Mechanics' Institute; Dr. CRAIGIE and THOMAS HILTON, Delegates Hamilton Mechanics' Institute; JOHN E. PELL, SAMUEL ROGERS, WM. EDWARDS, JOHN McBEAN, WM. H. SHEPPARD, BENJAMIN WALTON, ALEXANDER HAMILTON, and RICE LEWIS, Delegates Toronto Mechanics' Institute.

Minutes of the former Meeting were read and confirmed.

Letters were read from the Board of Arts and Manufactures for Lower Canada, on a proposed new Patent Law (accompanied by copies of Act); and also on an Exhibition of Productions of Canadian Industry, proposed to be held in the City of Montreal, on the occasion of the inauguration of Victoria Bridge, during next Summer; also a letter from the President of L'Original Mechanics' Institute, explaining that in consequence of its great distance from Toronto, it was not probable that any representative would be present at the Meeting of the Board, but trusting that steps would be taken to urge upon Government the renewal of the annual Grants to the several Institutes of the Province; also a communication from the President of the Niagara Mechanics' Institute, stating that, in consequence of severe indisposition, he would not be able to attend the meeting of the Board.

A letter was also read from B. Woodcroft, Esq., of the Great Seal Patent Office, London, stating that he had given instructions to have the numbers of the "Commissioners of Patents Journal," as issued, regularly transmitted to this Board.

On motion of Mr. Sheldrick, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the correspondence just read, was referred to the Sub-Committee.

The Report of the Sub-Committee was read by the Secretary, and, on motion of Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Sheldrick, was adopted, and ordered to be published under the direction of the Sub-Committee.

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The election of Officers and Committee for the ensuing year then took place, which resulted in the selection of the following gentlemen:—

PRESIDENT	-	-	-	-	John Beatty, Junr., M.D.
VICE-PRESIDENT	-	-	-	-	Mr. John E. Pell.
SECRETARY AND TREASURER	-	-	-	-	Mr. William Edwards.

SUB-COMMITTEE:—Messrs. Wm. Hay, W. H. Sheppard, Thomas Hilton, Dr. Craigie, Thomas Sheldrick, Patrick Freeland, Benjamin Walton, Alexander Hamilton, and John McBean.

Moved by Mr. Sheldrick, seconded by Mr. McCabe, and

Resolved,—"That the Sub-Committee be instructed to Memorialize the Provincial Government, and urge upon it the necessity of providing for the resumption of Grants to the several Incorporated Mechanics' Institutes, in the Estimates to be presented to Parliament at its approaching Session."

Moved by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mr. McCabe, and

Resolved,—"That the Sub-Committee adopts such means as it may see fit, to carry out the proposed scheme of a joint-publication, as mentioned in the Report of the Sub-Committee."

Moved by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Craigie, and

Resolved,—"That this Board affiliates with the London Society of Arts, and that the Secretary and Treasurer be instructed to forward to said Society the necessary Subscription."

Mr. Sheppard gave notice that he will, at the next meeting of the Board, move that Article XI. of the By-Laws be amended, by reducing the number necessary to constitute a quorum of the Board, to twelve members.

The Board then adjourned.

REPORT.

The Sub-Committee of the "Board of Arts and Manufactures for Upper Canada," at this the close of its term of office, begs to present to the Board, in compliance with By-Law No. VIII., a full Report of its proceedings, as follows:—

AFFILIATION OF INSTITUTES.

During the past year ten Mechanics' Institutes have affiliated with this Board, and subscribed one-tenth of their respective Parliamentary Grants for the previous year, namely:—Dundas, Fonthill, Galt, Hamilton, Mitchell, Port Dover, Paris, Smith's Falls, Toronto, and Waterdown. The Cobourg and Whitby Mechanics' Institutes, and the Hamilton Board of Trade, have also been represented at the Board by their respective Presidents and Delegates.

Considering that the affiliation of the several Institutes with the Board, is mutually advantageous to both, your Committee, as in 1858, appropriated to their Libraries, Books, at wholesale prices, equal in value to the amount of their respective subscriptions.

FREE LIBRARY AND MODEL ROOMS.

The Free Library of Reference, and Model Rooms, have continued open to the public during the year, and have attracted a considerable number of Inventors, Artizans, and others, to consult the very valuable Books, and large number of Models of Inventions, which the Rooms contain. For reasons hereafter given, your Committee has made but few additions to the Library since the last annual Report.

FINANCES AND OBJECTS OF THE BOARD.

The Government Grant to this Board, for the past year, was the same as for 1858, namely :—\$2,000. The total receipts, including a balance from the former year of \$1584 65, amounted to \$3731 97; Expenditure \$1640 22; leaving a balance in hand of \$2091 75. The Treasurer's detailed annual Statement now lies on the table for your inspection.

Your Committee has considered it advisable to keep the Expenditure down as low as possible, until such time as the Amendments to the Act of Incorporation shall be obtained; thus allowing a fund to accumulate for the purpose of commencing more active operations, in the establishment and progression of some, or all, of the various departments contemplated by the Act, namely :—

Museum and Model Rooms, illustrative of Arts and Manufactures.

Free Library of Reference, on subjects connected with Arts and Manufactures.

School of Design, and School or College for Mechanics.

Employment of Lecturers in Arts, Science, and Manufactures.

And the Publication and Circulation among the Mechanics' Institutes, and among Mechanics and Manufacturers generally, of such Reports, Essays, Lectures, and other Literary Compositions as shall convey useful information to those classes.

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

In the early part of the year, instructions were given to your representatives to the Board of Agriculture, to "Obtain a decision with reference to the position this Board is to take at the next Provincial Exhibition, with respect to the management of the Fine Arts and Manufactures Department." On the 5th of April, subsequent, the following resolutions of the Board of Agriculture were reported to this Board, namely :—

Resolved 1st.—"That the Board of Arts be authorized to draw up a Prize List in the Department of Arts and Manufactures, to the extent of _____ Dollars, and submit for the approval of this Board."

Resolved 2nd.—“ That the Secretary of the Board of Arts be authorized “ to receive all entries in the said Department.”

Resolved 3rd.—“ That the Board of Arts be requested to furnish a list “ of Judges in their Department, for approval by this Board.”

Resolved 4th.—“ That the said Board of Arts be requested to take charge “ of and manage the said Department of the Exhibition on behalf of this Board, “ and that it be so published accordingly.”

These Resolutions the Board referred to the Sub-Committee, for such action thereon as to it might seem best. On a full and careful consideration of the subject, at a meeting of your Committee, held on the 28th of April, a Resolution was adopted declining to take part in the forthcoming Exhibition on the terms proposed to this Board, and appointing a special Committee to communicate the action of this Board to the Board of Agriculture. The correspondence between the special Committee and the Board of Agriculture, will be found appended to this Report.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.

As instructed by the Board at its last Annual Meeting, your Committee placed in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture, the amendments to the Act of Incorporation, as adopted by the Board. It was subsequently ascertained that the Government was not prepared to sanction any Legislation thereon during the Session then in progress; your committee, therefore, directed its attention to further amendments in the Act; and also to some differences of opinion then existing between this Board and the Board for Lower Canada, respecting some of the amendments already adopted by this Board.

As the result of a conference had between your President, Vice-President, and Secretary, and a deputation from the Lower Canada Board, at the Provincial Exhibition, at Kingston, in September last, several modifications and additions to the original amendments have been made, and are herewith submitted for the consideration of the Board, as follows:—

Amendment 1st—Section VII.—Substitute the words “ Provincial Exhibition,” for “ Agricultural”; and also in all other places where the word occurs in the same connection.

Amendment 2nd—Section XIII—Provides for the appointment of a Treasurer by the Board of Agriculture; and constitutes the Secretary of said Board *ex-officio* Secretary of the Council of the “ Provincial Exhibition Association.”

Amendment 3rd.—Section XX—Constitutes principal Officers of the Provincial Geological Survey, *ex-officio* Members of the Board of Arts and Manufactures, in that Section of the Province in which they may respectively reside.

Amendment 4th—Sections XXII and XXIII—Incorporated in one, without altering the sense.

Amendment 5th—Section XXIV. to be called XXIII—Provides for the Election of Delegates by the Mechanics' Institutes and Boards of Trade, at the last Meeting, instead of the first, in every year; provides also for the Election of Delegates by Arts Associations, in the proportion of one for every twenty

Members on the Rolls of such Associations ; restricts the number of Delegates from any one Institution or Association to ten, no matter what the number of its Members may be ; and provides for the filling up of any Vacancies that may occur during the year.

Amendment 6th—Section XXV. altered to XXIV.—In this, and in all other parallel places in the respective Sections, the words “ Arts Association ” are introduced.

Amendment 7th—Section XXVI. altered to XXV.—Provides for the transmission of the names of the Presidents, as well as of the Delegates, of the several Institutes, Boards of Trade, and Arts Associations ; also statement of names of Members on Roll, under Corporate Seal, and verified by declaration of Secretary, instead of by oath as at present ; and makes any false Statement or Declaration punishable as wilful and corrupt perjury.

Amendment 8th—Section XXVII. altered to XXVI.—Provides that the Boards of Arts and Manufactures shall have the charge and oversight of the Departments of Arts and Manufactures, in the same manner and to the same extent, as the Boards of Agriculture now have charge and oversight of the Departments of Agriculture ; also provides for opening Schools of Design for both Sexes ; and further provides for extension of powers as regards the manner of having Lectures delivered, by the respective Boards.

Amendment 9th—Section XXIX. altered to XXVIII.—Provides that the Quarterly Meetings of the respective Boards be held on the last Tuesday in the Months of January, April, July. and October, instead of the first, as at present.

Amendment 10th—Section XXX. altered to XXIX.—The word “ Council ” substituted for “ Sub-Committee,” wherever it occurs ; also provides that either of the respective Boards of Upper and Lower Canada, may appoint a Salaried Secretary, whether a Member of such Board or not, whenever it may see fit so to do.

Amendment 11th—Section XXX. provides for the general Supervision, by the respective Boards of Arts and Manufactures, of all Institutes and Associations receiving Government Grants, and the receiving and distributing of such Grants ; requires the Incorporation of such Institutes and Associations, and the regular transmission to the respective Boards of Certified Copies of their Annual Reports ; and further requires the appointment, by the respective Boards, of accredited Agents, to visit and report on the progress and working of each Institute and Association.

Amendment 12th—Section XXXII.—Provides that only the Council of the Board shall be Directors of the Provincial Exhibition Association, instead of the entire Board, but that each Incorporated Mechanics’ Institute may send two Directors, in the same manner as is now done by the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies. Provisions for Secretaries of Associations transferred from Section XXXIV.

Amendment 13th—Section XXXIV.—Provides that with the Board of Agriculture, shall be associated the Council of the Board of Arts and Manufactures, which shall constitute the Council of the “ Provincial Exhibition Association ” ; appointment of Treasurers of the Associations transferred from Section XXXII ; and that the President of the Board of Agriculture, and the President of the Board of Arts and Manufactures, be President and Vice-President of the Council of the Association.

Your Committee has refrained from suggesting Amendments to any portion of the Act, except in so far as such Amendments shall have a direct bearing on the working of this Board.

PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS TO MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

So soon as it was ascertained, from the printed Estimates submitted to the Parliament at its last Session, that it was the intention of the Government to withdraw all Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, your Committee appointed a Deputation to wait upon the Honourable the Inspector-General, and to represent the effects of such withdrawal of Government support, not only on the several Mechanics' Institutes, but on this Board. The Inspector-General was pleased to assure your Committee that, although the Government had determined on the present withdrawal of all Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, it was the intention of the Government that they should be resumed during the next year, under some more judicious mode of distribution than formerly.

PUBLICATION OF JOURNAL AND TRANSACTIONS.

At the last Meeting of your Committee, a scheme was submitted for entering into a joint Publication, with the Board of Agriculture, of the semi-monthly Journal now published by that Board. Your Committee has not had an opportunity of carefully looking into the merits of the scheme proposed, but, notwithstanding, they are disposed to view it with favour; and would therefore recommend it to the consideration of the Board.

An outline of the scheme proposed is hereto appended.

Your Committee would also recommend that, as soon as practicable, Periodical Examinations of Candidates—Members of Incorporated Mechanics' Institutes—should be established, and Certificates of proficiency granted to such in the following studies, namely :—English Grammar and Composition; Mathematics, Arithmetic, and Bookkeeping; Ornamental, Geometrical, and Perspective Drawing; and Natural and Physical Sciences.



APPENDIX.

Correspondence with Board of Agriculture.

GEORGE BUCKLAND, ESQ.,
Secretary Board of Agriculture.

TORONTO, 6th May, 1859,

SIR,—We are directed by the Committee of the Board of Arts and Manufactures for Upper Canada, to inform you that a Copy of the Resolutions passed by the Board of Agriculture, relative to the Annual Provincial Exhibition to be held in Kingston in the month of September next, and to the Management of the Department of Arts and Manufactures at such Exhibition, was laid before the Board of Arts at its regular Quarterly Meeting held in April last, and was referred to its Committee to take such action thereon as might be thought desirable.

The Committee having carefully considered these Resolutions, have reluctantly come to the determination respectfully to decline accepting the position which your Board have thereby assigned to the Board of Arts, and have appointed us to inform you of their decision,

In the view of our Committee the Act of 1857, incorporating the Board of Arts, gave to it the entire oversight of the Arts and Manufactures in Upper Canada, in the same manner, and to the same extent, as the Board of Agriculture now has the oversight of matters pertaining to Agriculture, while the Resolutions above referred to, assume to your Board, so far as the Annual Exhibition is concerned, the entire Control and Management of both Departments, and place the Board of Arts in a subordinate capacity to your Board, a position which they cannot in justice to themselves accept; feeling as they do that they could never hope to manage satisfactorily to themselves, or to the interests of either Society so long as all their proceedings, even to the appointment of Judges, is subject to be reviewed by the Board of Agriculture.

In coming to this determination the Committee of the Board of Arts must not be considered as in any degree assuming, or wishing to assume, anything approaching a hostile attitude to your Board—nothing could be further from their intentions; they are willing cordially to co-operate with your Board, and to take the Management of the Department of Arts and Manufactures at the Exhibition, but it must be left with them to do so in such manner as they may think most conducive to the interests of Arts and Manufactures in this Province, as they are anxious only to adopt such a course as shall be most advantageous to the mutual interests of their Board, and the Board of Agriculture; all that is wished being simply that the Board of Arts should be placed in relation to their own Department on the same footing as the Board of Agriculture now stands in relation to Agriculture.

In conclusion, we have to request that you will have the goodness to lay this letter before the Board of Agriculture at as early a day as possible, and that you would kindly favor us with a reply with the least possible delay, as the future action of the Board of Arts will depend upon the course pursued by your Board.

We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your obedient Servants,
(Signed)

PATRICK FREELAND.
WILLIAM HAY.

W. EDWARDS, Esq.,

Secretary Board of Arts and Manufactures.

SIR,—I beg to inform you, that I submitted the Communication of your Committee, relative to the arrangements of the next Provincial Exhibition, to this Board, at its Meeting at Kingston, on the 27th instant, and to transmit a copy of the accompanying Resolution in reference thereto,

I am SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed)

GEORGE BUCKLAND.

Resolved,—"That as the Board of Arts and Manufactures declines taking charge of the Department of Arts and Manufactures at the ensuing Provincial Exhibition, under the conditions proposed at a Meeting of this Board in March last, this Board will assume the entire Control of the Exhibition, and will avail themselves of the proffered aid of the Members of said Board of Arts in carrying out the details of the Exhibition."

GEORGE BUCKLAND,

Secretary.

Scheme for Joint Publication of Journal.

TITLE.

Canadian Agriculturist and Manufacturer,

And Journal and Transactions of the Board of Agriculture, and Board of Arts and Manufactures, for Upper Canada.

Management and Contents.

Journal to be published twice a month—each issue to contain 32 octavo pages, eight of which shall be devoted to, and be styled, the "Board of Arts and Manufactures Department"; and the Board shall provide, and be responsible for, the matter for said eight pages.

The Board of Arts and Manufactures shall also provide a just proportion of the cost of conducting the Journal.

The Board of Agriculture to have the whole control of the Subscription List, and general Management of the Journal; with the exception of the Correspondence and Matter connected with the Arts and Manufactures Department.

The "Arts and Manufactures Department to consist of Reports and Lectures (or abstracts thereof) of the Incorporated Mechanics' Institutes and Arts Associations of Upper Canada; a Leading Article in each issue on some subject connected with Arts and Manufactures; a Synopsis of the various Patents issued in Canada, relating to the Arts and Manufactures; Lists of New Books suitable for Mechanics' Institute Libraries; and a choice selection of Articles from the various Scientific and Mechanical Periodicals of Great Britain and the United States.

An Editorial Committee to have the oversight of the Department.

